

This nationally renowned zoological park opened in Trinity Park in 1909 with just two bears, a lion, a coyote, an alligator, a peacock, and a few rabbits. Today, it is home to over 5,000 exotic and native animals.

The Zoo moved to its present home in Forest Park in 1912 after flooding from the Trinity River killed all of the animals. The first permanent structure was built to house Queen Tut, the Zoo's first Asian elephant.

The Zoo's early years saw many changes. In 1924, amusement rides were added. This included the Zoo train, which is still in use today. Throughout the 1930s, many improvements were made to include additional exhibits. In the 1940s, another elephant was added, as well as a hippo. The 1950s brought exciting changes. The Zoo not only formed the Fort Worth Zoological Association, but the aquarium opened with 100 tanks and 400 species. The herpetarium was added in 1960. The 1980s and 1990s included the opening of the Asian elephant breeding facility, the World of Primates, Asian Falls, and numerous exhibits featuring animals such as penguins, meerkats, koalas, and flamingos. The eight-acre Texas Wild! Complex opened in 2001 and showcases seven separate exhibits with animals that are all native to our great state.

The future is bright with the planned Museum of Living Art, which will house amphibians and reptiles. It will also serve as an educational facility so that visitors can learn about wildlife conservation.

All of these incredible additions have made the Fort Worth Zoo one of the most popular attractions locally, as well as a destination for people from across the United States.

Madam Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the Fort Worth Zoo on its 100th anniversary and to offer my sincere congratulations to an outstanding facility and its staff that have provided countless memories to children and adults over the years.

**A PROCLAMATION HONORING  
ZACK BAKER FOR WINNING THE  
BOYS' DIVISION III STATE BASE-  
BALL CHAMPIONSHIP**

**HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 30, 2009*

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Zack Baker showed hard work and dedication to the sport of baseball; and

Whereas, Zack Baker was a supportive team player; and

Whereas, Zack Baker always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the field; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Zack Baker on winning the Boys' Division III State Baseball Championship. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship he has demonstrated during the 2008–2009 baseball season.

**RECOGNIZING THE NIGHT  
MINISTRY**

**HON. MIKE QUIGLEY**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 30, 2009*

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of The Night Ministry and their Response Ability Pregnant and Parenting Program, a program that is devoted to providing supportive services to pregnant and parenting homeless teens to strengthen family support systems, reduce subsequent pregnancies, keep teens in school, improve parenting skills and increase the safety and stability in their living situations.

The Night Ministry's RAPP Program is this year's recipient of the Healthy Teen Network's National Outstanding Emerging Innovation Program Award. This award is given out annually to a program that has demonstrated commitment to the prevention of teen pregnancy or excellence in teen pregnancy and parenting services. The RAPP Program assists teen parents while focusing on both short- and long-term goals such as medical and mental health care, acquiring stable housing, vocational training, accessing public aid and general assistance by offering services in the community and at the eight-bed, eight-crib Open Door Shelter in Lake View.

The Night Ministry's RAPP Program assists homeless teens while they deal with the stresses and strains of pregnancy and parenting. I am proud to recognize the hard work, ingenuity and charity of The Night Ministry as the RAPP Program continues to improve teenager's lives and the prospects of their futures.

**ACORN DESERVES EQUAL JUSTICE  
UNDER THE LAW**

**HON. CAROLYN C. KILPATRICK**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 30, 2009*

Ms. KILPATRICK of Michigan. Madam Speaker, I oppose the final version of the Legislative Branch Appropriations bill, which includes language that would ban funding for the Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now (ACORN). While ACORN has fallen under media scrutiny for actions reported by the media, no criminal charges have been filed against ACORN, no indictment has been reached against ACORN, and no trial by jury has taken place regarding ACORN.

I support an investigation of ACORN, and ACORN has already moved forward with an objective, unbiased investigation of these allegations. Instead of acting on factual data, Congress is reacting based on media reports of alleged wrongdoing. All Americans have the presumption of innocence. With this vote, Congress has ignored this presumption, and the Constitution, as well. This vote against ACORN—or any liberal, conservative, or independent organization without merit—is wrong. In these economically and socially difficult times, Congress must utilize leadership, reason, sense, and sanity. This vote is not sound leadership, and it is not what the American people expect or need.

Congress should not, and must not, start punishing individuals, businesses, or groups

without a fair trial. Congress must not assume guilt based on media reports, Internet chat rooms, or anything less than a complete and full investigation of the facts by the appropriate law enforcement agency. Some Members of Congress have even questioned the Constitutionality of Congress' refusing funds to inflict punishment on individuals without a fair trial. While I am not an expert on the Constitution, I do know that we must protect the rights of all individuals. The language in this bill, which would ban federal funds for ACORN for the length of any Continuing Budget Resolution, is wrong. It is wrong to punish organizations or individuals without a trial, and it is wrong because it totally obscures the good work that groups like ACORN have done for years. It is wrong because Congress must lead and not follow.

ACORN has operated for almost 20 years fighting for poor people. The organization has registered voters and attained housing for low income individuals and families.

This vote sets a very chilling precedent of acting first and asking questions or investigating later. I do not know the merits, or lack thereof, of ACORN's alleged wrongdoing. I do know that when Congress acts without the complete set of facts and does not consider the ramifications that this precedent sets, it hurts all Americans.

**A PROCLAMATION HONORING  
TREY PORTER FOR WINNING  
THE BOYS' DIVISION III STATE  
BASEBALL CHAMPIONSHIP**

**HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 30, 2009*

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Trey Porter showed hard work and dedication to the sport of baseball; and

Whereas, Trey Porter was a supportive team player; and

Whereas, Trey Porter always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the field; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Trey Porter on winning the Boys' Division III State Baseball Championship. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship he has demonstrated during the 2008–2009 baseball season.

**EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES AND  
CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF  
JUDGE JERRY BUCHMEYER**

**HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 30, 2009*

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a trailblazing legal mind that changed the face of public housing and city elections, The Honorable Jerry Buchmeyer.

Judge Buchmeyer, a retired U.S. District judge, was first appointed to the bench by President Jimmy Carter in 1979. His unwavering pursuit of fairness, in spite of the discriminatory practices that prevailed during this era,